



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES
Zoom Video Conference
July 1, 2020
1:00pm

Introductions: **Members attending the meeting were:** DWM Darren Chacon/CPW, Scot Dodero/Livestock Grower, Hilary Boyd/BLM, Phil Nyland/USFS, Jim Nieslanik/Livestock Grower, and Admin. Samantha Sorensen/CPW. **Guests attending the meeting were:** Julie Mao, John Powers, Fred Kuersten, AWM Matt Yamashita, and Danielle Neumann.

General Public Comments: Darren mentioned that if there's a project coming up that didn't meet the agenda deadline then general public comments would be the time to talk about it.

Budget Report: Samantha presented committee members with a FY20 and FY21 budget report. The Ridgway CE was rolled into FY21 due to the closing date getting pushed back. Also the State Council increased local committee budgets by 10% for the next two years.

Old Business: Minutes from April 29 and June 3 were presented and approved as written. Hilary gave a brief summary of the project tour on June 3, unfortunately there were no committee members in attendance. She mentioned she would like to give a presentation at some point.

D8 HMP Update & Comment Letter: Julie Mao gave an update on the changes to the plan. The committee supported CPW's preferred alternatives for both the population objective and sex ratio; Sam will write a comment letter.

New Business: Powers Ranch Riparian Restoration Livestock Control: John explained that he'd previously installed fence intended for cattle but now he needs to modify the fence to allow for sheep. Scot mentioned that he's not crazy about woven wire since it's not wildlife friendly. John said the height is wildlife friendly and he's open to other ideas. Scot thought that in the past they'd asked for more gates and that the gates be left open for calving/fawning season. John said he would consider installing more gates. The committee approved \$4,375.00 for the project. John added that the fence project the committee had approved back in April had not been started yet, and he didn't realize that the funding expired on June 30th. Both proposals were for the same project so he thought he try to do them at the same time. The committee agreed to pay for the \$1,375.00 out of FY21. Samantha will combine the projects and a purchase order will be required.

Hood Ranch Aspen Tree Mitigation/Cleanup: Joe pointed out that this proposal is a continuation of tree removal up South Canyon. Falling aspen and scrub oak have made some areas impassable but he feels like they're making progress. He would like to accomplish another 10-20 acres before

this winter. The goal is to open migration paths for elk and create more usable acres for cows. The committee approved \$7,530.00 for the project. Darren said it would be nice to see some photos.

Fence & Herbicide Vouchers: Samantha went over FY2020 figures and asked if the committee would like to continue both voucher programs as is. The committee decided to keep herbicide vouchers the same and approved \$10,000.00; fence vouchers were increased to \$500 each for a total of \$12,500.00. Samantha read off the approved materials list and the committee didn't feel the need to make any changes.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: Chair/Co-Chair & Program Promotion: Rick Bumgardner is the current chair and Darren is the co-chair. Darren asked if anyone else would be interested in filling those roles. Phil asked Scot if he would consider it and Scot said he would like to think about it. Matt mentioned the 10% budget increase and challenged the committee to find new ways of spending money while still meeting the program's objectives. He pointed out that they see the same applicants year after year and wondered how they could solicit more participation. Flexibility with regard to the 50/50 match, committee member engagement with other organizations, HPP participation in future events and functions, and hosting an introduction to HPP BBQ were all discussed as possibilities. Phil mentioned that he could attend annual range meetings and hand out HPP fliers. Matt went on to say that the committee plan emphasizes participation in meetings. He understands that everyone gets busy and if the commitment gets to be too much then please let us know if you'd like to pass the torch. Voiced his appreciation and ended with a resounding thank you.

Select Next Meeting Date: August 27th at 1pm. Future Agenda Items:

Roundtable: Darren-will talk with Rick about his future with HPP.
Scot-will give the chairman position some more thought.
Phil-will try to invite new blood to the next meeting.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:19pm.